

First reading

In those days: The LORD said, 'Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.' So the men turned from there and went towards Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. Then Abraham drew near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?' And the LORD said, 'If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.' Abraham answered and said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?' And he said, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.' Again he spoke to him and said, 'Suppose forty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of forty I will not do it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.' He answered, 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' He said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.'

Responsorial Psalm

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

Ps 138(137)

1. I thank you, LORD, with all my heart;
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I praise you.
I bow down towards your holy Temple.
2. I give thanks to your name for your merciful love
and your faithfulness. For you have exalted over
all your name and your promise. On the day I
called, you answered me; you increased the
strength of my soul.
3. The LORD is high, yet he looks on the lowly,
and the haughty he knows from afar.
You give me life though I walk amid affliction;
you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes.
4. With your right hand you save me;
the LORD will accomplish this for me.
O LORD, your merciful love is eternal
discard not the work of your hands.

Second reading

Brothers and Sisters: You have been buried with Christ in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Gospel Acclamation

You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'

Gospel

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' And he said to them, 'When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.' And he said to them, 'Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey and I have nothing to set before him"; and he will answer from within, "Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything"? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

Genesis 18:20-32

The Newsletter of the Parishes of St Alban's Pelaw & St Patrick's Felling



St Alban's at Pelaw



St Patrick's at Felling



Our School at Pelaw

Part of the John Ingram Partnership of Parishes

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The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

17th Sunday of Year C - 27th July 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	26 th	17 th Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	27 th		St P	10.00am	Francis Joseph Crilly
Mon	28 th	Weekday	St P	10.00am	LDM Foster, Birney, Madden, Carr F
Tue	29 th	SS Martha, Mary +L			No Service
Wed	30 th	Weekday	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Thu	31 st	St Ignatius of Loyola	St P	10.00am	Bill Rutherford
Fri	1 st	St Alphonsus	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Sat	2 nd	18 th Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	3 rd		St P	10.00am	Kathleen & Tommy McKenna & Joan Neil
St A = St Alban's; St P = St Patrick's Weekday Masses at St Patrick's are Celebrated in the Parish Centre Weekday Masses at St Alban's are Celebrated in the Chapel in the Presbytery					

We pray for all those who are sick or unwell at this time.

This Weekend we have our **Annual Mission Appeal**. We welcome **Sr Margaret** who is visiting from the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph to make an appeal. There will be a collection as you leave church to support the work of this order.

The Order of Mass can be found on Page 200
in the **middle of your Hymn Books** indicated by the grey page markers.
The Gloria is on page 202. The Creed is on page 205.

Journeying with the Word of God

‘Lord, teach us to pray.’

As today’s **Gospel Acclamation** reminds us, ‘The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.’ This week’s readings reveal a parent God who cares for us. We are his children, the ‘works of his hands’.

Though we have fallen short (**First Reading**), God finds the good in us and is ever ready to respond with faithfulness and compassion (**Psalms**). The Lord answers our call through his eternal love.

St Paul’s letter to the Colossians (**Second Reading**) shows the extent of that eternal love. God is willing to go even to the cross in order that we might be brought to new life.

The opening section of today’s **Gospel** gives us the shorter form of the Lord’s Prayer, and this is followed by the parable of the friend who comes by night. This teaches perseverance in prayer and shows that God’s parental love far surpasses any human love.

This week, let us be confident that the One who brings us to life will continue to love us with an infinite love and will give us all the good things we need.

Recruiting Altar Servers: Parents whose children are in school year 4, or above, who would like them to train to be altar servers are invited to let Fr Martin know.

Learning to play the Church Organ: Anyone who has piano playing to level 5 or above and might be interested in learning how to play the church organ, please let Fr Martin know.

Thank you for the following collections: **St Alban’s**

Peter’s Pence	£51.91
Stella Maris	£33.10

St Patrick’s

£86.51
£47.90

Thank you for your offerings: We ask you to please consider **making your offering by Standing Order**. This is by far the easiest way to donate, either on a weekly or monthly basis. (Details below). If you pay income tax **why not consider “Gift Aiding” your offering. At no cost to you, the parish receives 25p for every £1.00 you donate.** All you need is to complete a simple Gift Aid form which may be obtained from the parish office at stpatrick.felling@diocesehn.org.uk

For St. Alban’s:

Account name: DHN Pelaw St Alban
Sort code: 40-34-18
Account No: 92010984

For St. Patrick’s:

Account name: DHN Felling St Patrick
Sort code: 40-34-18
Account No: 52010453

Alive in HOPE: A Church for MISSION. Bishop Stephen invites you to a **Jubilee Day** on **Saturday 27th September, from 10 am to 3 pm, at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead**. Everyone is welcome! There’ll be guest speakers from the Prisons’ Chaplaincy and the Justice & Peace Refugee Project, and a choice of seminars/forums to reawaken and empower us for mission. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a prayer space in the chapel, and praise and worship led by Durham musicians ‘Set A Fire’. Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but please register at <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25>. For enquiries email Amy at adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk. Search on Facebook, X and Bluesky using the hashtag #DHNAlive25.

Sunday 27th July is World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly: The theme is "Blessed are those who have not lost hope" (cf. Sir 14): Pope Leo reminds us that there is ‘no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to grandchildren.’ We remember all grandparents and the elderly in our prayers.



Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2025-2026: The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The 2025-2026 CCRS course programme is now available on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>. For further information contact the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk